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Perkins
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Daniele CASALINI, a citizen of Italy

For:: SURFACE-COATED HARD MATERIAL, PRODUCTION METHOD FOR THIS,
AND USE OF THE SAME

Perkins, Smith & Cohen
One Beacon Street
Boston, MA 02108
(617) 854-4000

TO: Honorable Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

This amendment is presented with the application as filed to reduce the number of (deemed) claims and filing fee and for adjustment with U.S. format.

CLAIMS

Next
Claim 4, line 1, change "; one of claims 1 to 4" to -- claim 1 --.

Claim 6, line, after "is" insert --selected from the group consisting of -- and change "and/or" to -- and --.

Claim 9, lines 1-2, change "one of the claims 1 to 8" to -- claim 1 --.

Claim 12, lines 1-2, change "one of the claims 1 to 11" to -- claim 1 --.

Claim 16, line 1, change "one of the claims 12-15" to -- claim 12 --.

Claim 17, change "one of the claims 12-16" to -- claim 12 --.

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Claim 19, lines 1-2, change "one of the claims 1 to 11" to -- claim 1 -- and in line 3, add at the beginning -- a material selected from the class consisting of -- and in the last line change "and/or" to -- and --.

Claim 20, lines 1 to 2, change "one of the claims 1 to 11" to -- claim 11 --.

If any questions remain, please call Applicant's attorney, collect, at the number given above. If any sums are owed due to claim adjustments, please debit or credit Deposit Account 03-2410, order 12707-3.

Respectfully submitted,
DANIELE CASALINI, Applicant

Dated: July 17, 2000

By:

[Signature]
Jerry Cohen
Reg. No. 20,522
Attorney for Applicant